

abuses by prepaid health plans. They were trailblazers.

We all know of the commitment and achievements of John Moss to open up government information to ordinary citizens through the Freedom of Information Act. We know of his achievements in the fields of product safety and consumer protection. But perhaps not so widely known is the influence his example and integrity had on so many other Members and staff. Mike Lemov, who served as his Chief Counsel on Oversight, said recently in a tribute to his Chairman that John Moss invariably championed the underdog, and relished uphill fights. And that sums him up as well as any words could. He was in many ways, for so many of us, the conscience of the House.

If it needed to be done for the little guy, he was ready to do it. If he needed to take on big business or big government, the Defense Department or the drug companies, he was there. And he did it with thorough, effective, untiring work.

I consider myself lucky to have had the opportunity to serve with him. He has been gone from this House for many years, but the public that he championed continues to benefit because of his work and accomplishments. We would all be proud to leave such a legacy.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ILA
METTEE-MCCUTCHON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to Colonel Ila Mettee-McCutchon, the Commander of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and Presidio of Monterey, and Commandant of DLIFLC, on the occasion of her retirement from the U.S. Army. Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has been an inspiration to all during her 26-year career in the armed forces, and her positions of successive command only further confirm her valued leadership within the Army and of the respect shown to her by the men and women serving under her command.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon is herself an esteemed graduate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. She first earned both a B.A. and an M.S. in clinical psychology from Auburn University which prepared her well for her exceptional career in military intelligence. Later, she completed the WAC (Women's Army Corps) Officer Basic Course and the Military Intelligence Officer Advanced Course, and then graduated from the Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College, true marks of distinction in the career of any military officer.

For the first three years following Colonel Mettee-McCutchon's commissioning in 1971, she served as a psychologist at the Presidio of San Francisco responsible for drug and alcohol abuse rehabilitation. After displaying compassion and savvy in that assignment, she was transferred in 1974 to the Military Intelligence Branch and appointed a Regular Army Officer of Military Intelligence, which was the beginning of her extraordinary career in the field of military intelligence. Colonel Mettee-

McCutchon was initially a strategic analyst at Fort Bragg, before moving up to the following posts: Commander, Headquarters and Operations Company, 525th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Bragg; Chief, Joint Intelligence Center, U.S. Southern Command Panama; Commander, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Meade; and Staffer in the Intelligence Division, International Military Staff of NATO, at NATO Headquarters, Brussels. Because of her superb record of accomplishment in these critical intelligence posts, she was chosen to be Commander of the Garrison at the Presidio of Monterey in October, 1994.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has earned numerous awards during her career including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Meritorious Service Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters. She is married to John R. McCutchon, Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry (Retired), and has one child, Erin T. Mettee-McCutchon. I am sure everyone who knows Colonel Mettee-McCutchon joins me in recognizing her career of exemplary service to her country, and expressing heartfelt wishes for a happy retirement.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 1998 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG STAFF EXCHANGE

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the US Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the 2-week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for 3 weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag exchange is highly regarded in Germany and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the Fourth of July break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Kathie Scarrah at 316 Hart Senate Building by Thursday, February 12.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD D. ISAAC

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the retirement of a friend of all veterans, and the only director the West Palm Beach DVA Medical Center has ever known, Mr. Richard D. Isaac.

A graduate of Morehead State University and an Army veteran, Rich began his 25-year Department of Veterans Affairs career in his hometown of Pittsburgh as a recreational therapist. With hard work, a professional attitude and a good sense of humor, he served in ten assignments of increasing responsibility including service as the Associate Director at VAMC in Lake City, FL, and as the Associated Deputy Regional Director at the Southeast Region Field Office in Gainesville, FL.

In 1989, Rich was appointed as the director of the new VA Medical Center to be constructed in Palm Beach County, Florida. During the design phase of the medical center, Rich was charged with the daunting tasks of coordinating the efforts of regional clinical and administrative advisors who provided input to architects in the design of each department, as well as evaluating and implementing the overall design to assure quality care for every veteran.

Rich brought the 265-bed medical center and extended care facility to life, with its 800,000 square feet of space, nearly 1600 employees and \$110 million annual budget, and has given the veterans of South Florida one of the most efficient, technologically-advanced and caring medical facilities in the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to thank Richard D. Isaac for his many years of service to the